

REMARKS

Claims 3-7, 14-20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37-42, 44, and 45 are pending, of which claims 3, 4, and 14-16 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 8-13, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, and 43 are canceled, thereby obviating the rejections of those claims. Claims 3-7, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 44, and 45 are allowed.

Claims 14-19 and 39-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,945,972 to Okumura et al. (Okumura) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,026 to Saito et al. (Saito).

Regarding preliminary matters, Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 3-7, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 44, and 45. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119, and for returning initialed copies of all previously-submitted Forms PTO-1449. Also, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objections to the drawings are overcome by virtue of this Amendment, and requests withdrawal of the objection and acceptance of the drawings.

Regarding the rejection of claims 14-19 and 39-42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okumura in view of Saito, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Okumura nor Saito, whether taken alone or in combination, disclose or properly suggest the subject matter of at least independent claims 14-16, as amended herein.

For example, independent claim 14 recites (with emphasis added):

A driving method of a light-emitting device for displaying an image using n-bit (n is a natural number, $2 \leq n$) digital image signals, said light-emitting device comprising a source signal line driver circuit, a gate signal line driver circuit, and a plurality of pixels,

said method comprising:

outputting sampling pulses from shift register circuits, and inputting said sampling pulses into latch circuits in said source signal line driver circuits;

holding said digital image signals in accordance with said sampling pulses in said latch circuits;

transferring said digital image signals into source signal lines *by bit signal selection switches*;

outputting a gate signal line selection pulse from said gate signal line driver circuit, and selecting a gate signal line;
writing said n-bit digital image signals inputted from said source signal line into memory circuits at a row where said gate signal line is selected; and
reading out said n-bit digital image signals stored in said memory circuits in each of said plurality of pixels.

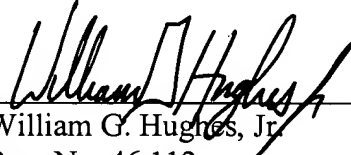
Support for the above-emphasized claim language may be found, for example, by considering element 204 of Fig. 2, as well as element 1703 of Fig. 17 (and associated discussion of those elements within the present application).

Since neither Okumura nor Saito discloses or properly suggests the above-recited claim language, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 14 is allowable for at least this reasons. Similar claim language is recited in independent claims 15 and 16, as amended, so that Applicant also submits that independent claims 15 and 16 are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, dependent claims 17-19 and 39-42 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons. Based on the above, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is requested in the Examiner's next official communication.

Enclosed is a \$110.00 check for the one-month Petition for Extension of Time fee.
Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 23, 2004



William G. Hughes, Jr.
Reg. No. 46,112

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331
40202802.doc